CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of reporting malware events comprising the steps of:
- 2 detecting a malware event;
- determining a level of the detected malware event;
- 4 comparing the level of the detected malware event to an event trigger
- 5 threshold; and
- 6 transmitting a notification of the detected malware event, based on the
- 7 comparison of the level of the detected malware event to the event trigger
- 8 threshold.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the detecting step comprises the step of:
- 2 detecting the malware event using a malware scanner.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the malware event comprises at least one
- 2 of:
- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.

- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the malware event has one of a plurality
- 2 of levels.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the level of the malware event comprises
- 2 one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the event trigger threshold comprises one
- 2 of a plurality of levels.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the level of the event trigger threshold
- 2 comprises one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events

- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the malware event comprises at least one
- 2 of:
- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.
- 1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting step comprises the steps
- 2 of:
- 3 transmitting the notification of the detected malware event in real-time, if
- 4 the level of the detected malware event is greater than or equal to the event
- 5 trigger threshold; and
- 6 transmitting the notification of the detected malware event eventually, if
- 7 the level of the detected malware event is less than the event trigger threshold.
- 1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the malware event has one of a plurality
- 2 of levels.

- 1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the level of the malware event
- 2 comprises one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the event trigger threshold comprises
- 2 one of a plurality of levels.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the level of the event trigger threshold
- 2 comprises one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.

- 1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the malware event comprises at least
- 2 one of:
- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.
- 1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the detecting step comprises the step of:
- 2 detecting the malware event using a malware scanner.
- 1 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the method further comprises the step
- 2 of:
- 3 transmitting an alert to an administrator indicating occurrence of the
- 4 detected malware event in real-time, if the level of the detected malware event is
- 5 greater than or equal to the event trigger threshold.
- 1 17. A system for reporting malware events comprising:
- a processor operable to execute computer program instructions;
- a memory operable to store computer program instructions executable
- 4 by the processor; and

- 5 computer program instructions stored in the memory and executable to
- 6 perform the steps of:
- 7 detecting a malware event;
- 8 determining a level of the detected malware event;
- 9 comparing the level of the detected malware event to an event trigger
- 10 threshold; and
- transmitting a notification of the detected malware event, based on the
- 12 comparison of the level of the detected malware event to the event trigger
- 13 threshold.
- 1 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the detecting step comprises the step of:
- 2 detecting the malware event using a malware scanner.
- 1 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the malware event comprises at least one
- 2 of:
- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.

- 1 20. The system of claim 17, wherein the malware event has one of a plurality
- 2 of levels.
- 1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the level of the malware event comprises
- 2 one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 22. The system of claim 21, wherein the event trigger threshold comprises one
- 2 of a plurality of levels.
- 1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the level of the event trigger threshold
- 2 comprises one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events

- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 24. The system of claim 23, wherein the malware event comprises at least one
- 2 of:
- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.
- 1 25. The system of claim 17, wherein the transmitting step comprises the steps
- 2 of:
- 3 transmitting the notification of the detected malware event in real-time, if
- 4 the level of the detected malware event is greater than or equal to the event
- 5 trigger threshold; and
- transmitting the notification of the detected malware event eventually, if
- 7 the level of the detected malware event is less than the event trigger threshold.
- 1 26. The system of claim 25, wherein the malware event has one of a plurality
- 2 of levels.

- 1 27. The system of claim 26, wherein the level of the malware event comprises
- 2 one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 28. The system of claim 27, wherein the event trigger threshold comprises one
- 2 of a plurality of levels.
- 1 29. The system of claim 28, wherein the level of the event trigger threshold
- 2 comprises one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.

- 1 30. The system of claim 29, wherein the malware event comprises at least one
- 2 of:
- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.
- 1 31. The system of claim 30, wherein the detecting step comprises the step of:
- detecting the malware event using a malware scanner.
- 1 32. The system of claim 31, further comprising the step of:
- 2 transmitting an alert to an administrator indicating occurrence of the
- 3 detected malware event in real-time, if the level of the detected malware event is
- 4 greater than or equal to the event trigger threshold.
- 1 33. A computer program product for reporting malware events, comprising:
- 2 a computer readable medium;
- 3 computer program instructions, recorded on the computer readable
- 4 medium, executable by a processor, for performing the steps of
- 5 detecting a malware event;
- 6 determining a level of the detected malware event;

- 7 comparing the level of the detected malware event to an event trigger
- 8 threshold; and
- 9 transmitting a notification of the detected malware event, based on the
- 10 comparison of the level of the detected malware event to the event trigger
- 11 threshold.
- 1 34. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the detecting step
- 2 comprises the step of:
- detecting the malware event using a malware scanner.
- 1 35. The computer program product of claim 34, wherein the malware event
- 2 comprises at least one of:
- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.
- 1 36. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the malware event
- 2 has one of a plurality of levels.

- 1 37. The computer program product of claim 36, wherein the level of the
- 2 malware event comprises one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 38. The computer program product of claim 37, wherein the event trigger
- 2 threshold comprises one of a plurality of levels.
- 1 39. The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the level of the event
- 2 trigger threshold comprises one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.

- 1 40. The computer program product of claim 39, wherein the malware event
- 2 comprises at least one of:
- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.
- 1 41. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the transmitting step
- 2 comprises the steps of:
- transmitting the notification of the detected malware event in real-time, if
- 4 the level of the detected malware event is greater than or equal to the event
- 5 trigger threshold; and
- 6 transmitting the notification of the detected malware event eventually, if
- 7 the level of the detected malware event is less than the event trigger threshold.
- 1 42. The computer program product of claim 41, wherein the malware event
- 2 has one of a plurality of levels.
- 1 43. The computer program product of claim 42, wherein the level of the
- 2 malware event comprises one of:

- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 44. The computer program product of claim 43, wherein the event trigger
- 2 threshold comprises one of a plurality of levels.
- 1 45. The computer program product of claim 44, wherein the level of the event
- 2 trigger threshold comprises one of:
- 3 informational malware events requiring no operator intervention; warning
- 4 malware events that indicate a process failure; minor malware events that require
- 5 attention, but are not events that could lead to loss of data; major malware events
- 6 that need operator attention; critical malware events that need immediate operator
- 7 attention and could lead to loss of data if not corrected.
- 1 46. The computer program product of claim 45, wherein the malware event
- 2 comprises at least one of:

- 3 completion of a malware scan, a process failure relating to malware
- 4 scanning, a missing log file, detection of a malware, or failure of a response to a
- 5 malware.
- 1 47. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the detecting step
- 2 comprises the step of:
- detecting the malware event using a malware scanner.
- 1 48. The computer program product of claim 47, further comprising the step
- 2 of:
- 3 transmitting an alert to an administrator indicating occurrence of the
- 4 detected malware event in real-time, if the level of the detected malware event is
- 5 greater than or equal to the event trigger threshold.